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posed Regulations for the Protection of Migratory Birds.' This follows the plan of its predecessor issued three years ago, but is less complicated, the open seasons having been changed so as to require fewer exceptions, and coincide with requests from sportsmen in various sections. This schedule should be carefully studied by all interested in game bird preservation.

'Bird Notes and News' shows that interest in bird protection in England continues in spite of the war while several articles treat of birds observed in France, in the trenches, and at Gallipoli.

Mr. Forbush's 'Eighth Annual Report' as State Ornithologist of Massachusetts is as usual replete with interesting facts and attractive illustrations.—W. S.

**The Dissemination of Virginia Creeper seeds by English Sparrows.**—Under a title substantially the foregoing, Bartle T. Harvey, in a recent number of *The Plant World*<sup>1</sup> describes observations on the point specified which he made in Colorado. Seeds gathered from excrement beneath an English Sparrow roost, gave a higher percentage of germination and produced stronger seedlings than others gathered directly from the plant. On fifty square feet of ground under the roost, 70 Virginia Creeper seedlings were found. The writer concludes, therefore, that under certain circumstances the English Sparrow may be an important agent in the dissemination of Virginia Creeper seeds. For further information on birds that feed on Virginia Creeper see 'The Auk,' Vol. 23, No. 3, July, 1906, pp. 346-347.—W. L. M.

### The Ornithological Journals.

**Bird-Lore.** XVII, No. 2. March-April, 1916.

The World's Record for Density of Bird Population. By Gilbert H. Grosvenor.—Fifty-nine pairs of birds nesting on one acre (12 species), including 26 pairs of Martins and 14 of House Wrens.

The Spring Migration of 1915 at Raleigh, N. C. By S. C. Bruner and C. S. Brimley.—Species arriving up to April 10, were 5 to 14 days late.

First Efforts at Bird Photography. By H. I. Hartshorn.

The Interesting Barn Owl. By J. W. Lippincott.

The Migration of North American Birds.—Bush-Tits, etc. By W. W. Cooke.—With plumage notes by F. M. Chapman and colored plate by Fuertes.

**Bird Lore.** XVIII, No. 3. May-June, 1916.

The Chipping Sparrow. By Newton Miller.

A Domestic Tragedy. By Julia Moesel.—Cowbird in Blue-headed Vireo's Nest.

<sup>1</sup> Vol. 18, No. 8, August, 1915, pp. 217-219.

**Some Experiences in Attracting Birds.**— The Nesting of a Red-breasted Nuthatch. By Henry S. Shaw, Jr.

**Notes on Plumages of North American Birds.** By F. M. Chapman.— Thrasher, Catbird and Mockingbird.

**Editorial Obituary of Wells W. Cooke, with portrait.**

**The Condor.** XVIII, No. 2. March–April, 1916.

**Sea Gulls at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition.** By Joseph Mailliard.— Numerous photographs.

**Characteristic Birds of the Dakota Prairies. IV. On the Lakes.** By Florence Merriam Bailey.

**The Farallon Rails of San Diego County.** By L. M. Huey.

**The Nutcrackers of Yellowstone Park.** By M. P. Skinner.

**A Chapter in the Life History of the Wren Tit.** By W. C. Newberry.

**The New Museum of Comparative Oölogy.** By W. L. Dawson.

**Notes on Some Land Birds of Tillamook County, Oregon.** By S. G. Jewett.

**The Oölogist.** XXXIII, No. 3. March 15, 1916.

Entire number devoted to instructions for the preparation and care of eggs and nests.

**The Oölogist.** XXXIII, No. 4. April 15, 1916.

**The Northern Pileated Woodpecker.** By S. S. Dickey — Nesting habits in Pennsylvania.

**Bluebird.** VIII, No. 3. February, 1916.

Good illustrated articles on the nesting of the Red-winged Blackbird and Whip-poor-will by Edw. L. Jack.

**Bluebird.** VIII, No. 4. March, 1916.

**A Rare Musician.** By Cordelia J. Stanwood — White-throated Sparrow.

**The Ibis.** X series. IV, No. 2. April, 1916.

**A List of Birds collected in Uganda and British East Africa, with Notes on their Nesting and other Habits.**— Part I. By V. G. L. van Someren. — Annotated list of 228 species exclusive of the Passeres.

**A Note on the Emperor Goose (*Philacte canagica*) and on the Australian Teal (*Nettion castaneum*).** By F. E. Blaauw.

**Bird-parasites and Bird-phylogeny.** By L. Harrison.— A striking paper. The classification of the Tubínares constructed entirely from a study of their parasitic Mallophaga corresponds almost exactly with that of Forbes based upon the structure of the birds. The author finds transference of parasites from one kind of bird to another very rare and that their evolution has been much slower than in the case of their hosts.

**On the Coloration of the Mouths of Birds.** By C. F. M. Swynnerton.— An interesting discussion of warning and directive coloration.

**On Some New Guinea Bird-names.** By G. M. Mathews.— In this discussion of the nomenclature of Ogilvie Grant's recent report on the birds collected by the B. O. U. Expedition to New Guinea we note the following new names, *Mimeta granti* (p. 297) for *Oriolus striatus* Q. and G.

In a reply to this criticism Mr. Ogilvie Grant, admits some of the errors

and in most of the others takes refuge behind such time honored arguments as "current usage," "obvious mistake" and others not recognized by the International Code of Nomenclature.

Studies on the Charadriiformes. IV. An Additional Note on the Sheath-bills: V. Some Notes on the Crab-Plover (*Dromas ardeola* Paykull). By P. Lowe.

The Denudation of the Shaft in the Motmot's Tail. By H. D. Astley.—The barbs on a captive bird dropped off naturally to form the terminal racquet and were not picked off by the bird.

**Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club.** No. CCXIII. February 22, 1916.

Dr. Hartert describes *Iole philippensis saturation* (p. 58), Mindanao; Dr. Hartert and Dr. van Someren propose *Smithornis capensis medianus* (p. 59), Kyambu Forest, Africa; Mr. Mathews describes *Sauropatis sordida colcloughi* (p. 61), Mud Island, near Brisbane, Queensland.

**Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club.** No. CCXIV. March 25, 1916.

New birds described by Dr. Hartert, *Scolopax rusticola mira* (p. 64), Amami Oskima, Riu Kiu Isls. *Coracina novahollandiae kuehni* (p. 65), Kei Islands, by Mr. Ogilvie Grant, *Cettia sumatrana* (p. 66), Korinchi Peak, Sumatra.

Capt. Ingram describes the nestling plumage of various terns, showing that the species of *Sterna* fall into two groups.

**Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club.** CCXV. April 27, 1916.

New birds are described by Rothschild and Hartert as follows: *Rhipidura cockerelli septentrionalis* (p. 73), Bongainville, Solomon Isls.; *R. c. interposita* (p. 73), Isabel Isl.; *R. c. lavellæ* (p. 74), Vella Lavella Isl.; By Dr. Hartert: *Tchitrea paradisi borneensis* (p. 75), Borneo. By G. M. Mathews: *Collocalia francica yorki* (p. 77), Cape York, Australia.

**British Birds.** IX, No. 10. March 1, 1916.

On "Wait and See" Photography. By E. L. Turner.—Studies of Lapwing, Moorhen and Coot. Jacksnipe and Heron in No. 11. Plover, Ducks and Tern in No. 12.

**British Birds.** IX, No. 11. April 1, 1916.

Manx Ornithological Notes: 1914–15. By P. G. Ralfe.

**British Birds.** IX, No. 12. May 1, 1916.

The Moults of the British Passeres, with Notes on the Sequence of their Plumages. By H. F. Witherby — Part iv, Larks.

**Avicultural Magazine.** VII, No. 5. March, 1916.

Notes on Waders seen in the Isles of Scilly. By E. I. Dorrien-Smith.

Birds in Flanders During the War. By Col. W. Tweedie.

**Avicultural Magazine.** VII, No. 6. April, 1916.

The Motmot. By H. D. Astley.—Discusses origin of racquets on the tail feathers.

Whiskey Jack and Another. By A. Trevor-Battye.—Habits.

**Avicultural Magazine.** VII, No. 7. May, 1916.

The Owl Parrot. By G. Renshaw — History and threatened extinction. Observations on the Birds in a Suburban Garden. [In England]. By A. A. Goodall.

Egg Markings and Sunlight. By A. G. Butler.— Sunlight and heat considered to affect intensity of coloration.

**The Emu.** XV, Part 4. April, 1916.

Avifauna of New South Wales Islands. By A. F. Bassett Hull.

Some Considerations on Sight in Birds. By Dr. J. C. Lewis.— General account of structure of the bird's eye, with citation of old and rather unconvincing experiments to prove exceptional powers of sight.

Eggs of Reptiles and Birds Compared, with Some Unusual Examples of the Latter. By R. W. Shufeldt.

Some Tasmanian Birds' Nests. By H. Stuart Dove.

Observations on Albatrosses at Sea. By E. W. Ferguson.— Discussion of plumage, etc., of a number of species. A series of excellent photographs of Australian birds is published in this number.

**The South Australian Ornithologist.** II, Part 6. April 1, 1916.

Notes on the Mallee Fowl. *Leipoa ocellata rosinae*. By T. P. Bell-chambers.— Incubation is given as from 58 to 77 days in captive birds.

An Ornithological Trip in St. Vincent and Spencer Gulfs. By A. G. Morgan.— Notes on 60 species.

A Sketch of the Life of Samuel White (continued). By S. A. White.

**The Austral Avian Record.** III, No. 3. April 7, 1916.

Some 76 new species and subspecies are here described together with the genera: *Rahcinta* (p. 58) for *Atrichia clamosa*; *Leachena* (p. 60) for *Epthamura crocea*. The descriptions are so meagre as to be almost worthless and in many cases size is used as a differential character but no measurements are given. Worse than all there is no indication of where the type specimen may be found, and no range for the new forms is given.

While Mr. Mathews has done wonders in seaching the literature to settle the status of various old names which have caused endless trouble, his good work is offset by the carelessness of such descriptions as these. If a thing is worth describing at all it is worth describing well, and nothing will cause the summary rejection of his proposed new subspecies more quickly than this slovenly method of presenting them. 'The Auk' has taken the same stand impartially in the cases of all who are guilty of similar offences. If systematic ornithology is to be kept from becoming the laughing stock of zoölogists, it is high time that such practices should cease.

**Revue Française d'Ornithologie.** VIII, No. 83. March 7, 1916. [In French.]

Biological Observations on the Birds of the Kerguelen Islands. By J. Loranchet (continued in April).

Contribution to the Ornithology of Provence. By J. L'Hermitte (continued in April).

**Revue Française d'Ornithologie.** VIII, No. 84. April 7, 1916.

The Ornithological Park of Vellers-Bretonneux. By J. Delacour (continued in May number).

**Ardea.** V, No. 1. April, 1916. [In Dutch.]

On the Migration of Birds in Holland in 1915. By Dr. H. Ekama.—Arrival dates for many localities.

On the Breeding of Some Exotic Birds at Gooilust during 1915. By F. E. Blaauw.—*Philacte canagica* and *Cygnus buccinator* among others.

**Messenger Ornithologique.** VII, No. 1. [In Russian.]

Some Observations on the Birds of the Povienetz District, Govt. Olonetz. By P. I. Ispolatoff.

On the Biology of the Marsh Warbler (*Acrocephalus palustris*). By S. G. Shtoeher.

On Some Swallows from Russian Turkestan. By N. A. Zarudny.—*Riparia riparia plumipes* (p. 34) subsp. nov.

Notes on *Perisoreus infaustus* and subspecies. By S. A. Buturlin.—*P. i. yakutensis* (p. 39), Achichey, Kolyma Dist.; *P. i. sakhalinensis* (p. 40), Saghalien; *P. i. ruthenus* (p. 40), Sofrino, Moscow Govt.; are described as new. The first is the bird known as *P. i. sibericus* (Bodd.) which name is regarded as not recognizable. The last is the bird of European Russia. Six forms, in all, are recognized but *P. i. opicus* Bangs is not placed as Mr. Buturlin has never seen or heard of a specimen with a "black" cap.

On the Question of the Status of the White-winged Magpie. By A. N. Karamsin.

*Cyanistes pleskei* and *Muscicapa atricapilla sibirica* are discussed in other papers.

Birds Collected by A. P. Velezhanin in the Basin of the Upper Irtysh. By G. I. Poliakov (continued and completed in No. 2.)

**Messenger Ornithologique.** VII, No. 2.

Materials for a Bird Fauna of N. W. Mongolia. By A. I. Tugarinow.

Contribution to our Knowledge of the *Remiza* of the Turkestan Region. By N. A. Zarudny.

On the Russian Species of *Coccothraustes*. By Prince A. Koudashev.—*C. c. tatjanæ* (p. 96) subsp. nov. Six forms recognized.

Note on the Distribution of *Regulus r. buturlini*. By S. A. Buturlin.

*Muscicapa atricapilla tomensis* nom emend (p. 101). By H. Johansen.

On the Spring Migration of the White Stork. By A. A. Browner.

**Falco.** XI, No. 2. December, 1915. [In German.]

Contains descriptions of the British races of *Passer domesticus* and *Strix alba*, under the new names *Passer hostilis* (p. 18), and *Strix hostilis* (p. 19). The author, O. Kleinschmidt, states that his subspecies will probably have a hostile reception in their native country and explains that he does not name them in the interests of British Ornithology but in accordance with the thoroughness of German science!